

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. §121 and §372 for the following inventions:

Group I, Claim(s) 1-6 drawn to nucleic acids, vectors, host cells, and methods of recombinantly producing proteins.

Group II, Claims(s) 7-9, 12-15 (in part), drawn to polypeptides and compositions comprising the same.

Group III, Claim(s) 10,11, 12-15(in part), drawn to antibodies and compositions comprising the same.

Group IV, Claim(s) 12-15 (in part), drawn to agonists and compositions comprising the same.

Group V, Claim(s) 12-15 (in part), drawn to antagonists and compositions comprising the same.

Group VI, Claim(s) 16-17 (in part), 25 (in part), drwn to treatment methods comprising administration of a protein.

Group VII, Claim(s) 16-17 (in part), drawn to treatment methods comprising administration of an antibody.

Group VIII, Claim(s) 16-17 (in part), drawn to treatment methods comprising administration of an agonist.

Group IX, Claim(s) 16-17 (in part), 25 (in part), drawn to treatment methods comprising administration of an antagonist.

Group X, Claim(s) 18, 20 drawn to diagnostic methods comprising use of antibody.

Group XI, Claim(s) 19, 22, 23, 26, drawn to diagnostic and screening methods involving measurement of gene expression levels.

Group XII, Claim(s) 21, 24, drawn to screening methods using the polypeptide.

Applicants elect Group X with traverse Claims 18, 20 drawn to diagnostic methods comprising use of antibody. Applicants further elect SEQ ID NO:69 (nucleic acid) and 70 (polypeptide) (PRO96271;DNA103440) for further prosecution.

Applicants have canceled Claims 1-17, and 21-26, which are directed to non-elected subject matter. Claim 18 has been canceled. Claim20 has been amended to delete the non-

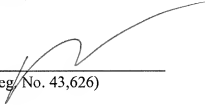
elected SEQ ID NOs. Claims 27-30 have been added. The amendments are fully supported by the specification and claims originally filed and do not introduce any new matter. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled subject matters in a continuation, continuation-in-part, or a divisional application. Claims 20 and 27-30 are pending after the amendment. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the amendment.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the present application is believed to be in *prima facie* condition for allowance, and an early action to that effect is respectfully solicited. Should there be any further issues outstanding, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number shown below. Please charge any additional fees, including fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-4634 (referencing Attorney's Docket No. GNE-0274 R1).

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 28, 2008

By: 
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